

July | August 2023

PATROL NEWS



OVER NINETY YEARS OF SERVICE AND PROTECTION

from the STAFF



Major Scott A. Shippers
Executive Services Bureau

The 2023 Missouri Legislative Session ended May 12, 2023, after countless hours in committee meetings and on floor debate. Legislative members filed a total of 2,323 bills; however, most proposed legislation failed to advance. Fifty-seven bills were Truly Agreed and Finally Passed by the General Assembly and are awaiting the governor's signature.

All four of the Patrol's legislative policy priorities emerged through the session and await the governor's signature:

Patrol Records – Proposed changes allow an automated dissemination of basic crash reports. Citizens will be able to electronically submit, pay, and receive the requested report via an electronic device. This workflow will greatly increase efficiency and decrease turnaround time.

Rap Back – This provision removes the six-year re-enrollment requirement for Rap Back. Rap Back allows qualified entities in Missouri to receive ongoing status notifications of new arrests for applicants under the entity's purview. It provides a constant background check of those working in positions of public trust.

Background Checks For Recreational Marijuana Facilities – Proposed changes will establish the Department of Health and Senior Services' statutory authority to require fingerprint-based criminal history background checks for employees, contractors, owners, and volunteers of recreational marijuana facilities.

Chapter 610 RSMo, Sunshine Law – This provision creates the opportunity to close certain records relating to the safety and security of educational institutions. Also included in the proposal is language designed to strengthen the protections afforded to investigative information or information contained in suspicious activity reports.

In the February 1992 Patrol News, Colonel C.E. (Mel) Fisher provided a legislative update in his Superintendent's Message in which he wrote, "Legislative sessions always present challenges to any state agency in form of opportunities and threats." It's true that legislative sessions can prove challenging. However, more than anything, there are many great opportunities for us to educate members of the General Assembly and their constituents about our agency and the professional law enforcement services the Patrol provides to the citizens we serve.

The 2023 Legislative Session was a success due to the work our personnel do each and every day by taking advantage of their opportunity to provide quality service to the public. This outstanding work does not go unnoticed by the General Assembly, Governor's Office, and the citizens of our great state. These opportunities lead to success now and are a gateway for future success for our agency to receive the resources needed to help ensure Missouri is a safe place to live, work, and visit.

CELEBRATING OVER 57 YEARS OF NEWS PATROL NEWS

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State of Missouri

SANDRA K. KARSTEN, DIRECTOR
Department of Public Safety

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PATROL NEWS

OVER NINETY YEARS OF SERVICE AND PROTECTION

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ON THE COVER

Sgt. Travis Hitchcock (Q/DDCC) and his son-in-law, Tpr. Jade Doyle share a proud moment after Tpr. Doyle received his commission. See pages 8-11 for full story.

TROOPER HAWKINS HONORED FOR LIFESAVING ACTIONS

By Cheryl D. Cobb
Public Info. Spec. III (Q/PIED)

It was March 4, 2023, and Trooper Orrin D. Hawkins (E) was patrolling when he overheard Cape Girardeau Police Department radio traffic about an active shooter in a downtown bar. He immediately responded to that location. Joined by a Cape Girardeau officer, he entered the building, searched for the gunman, and began clearing the bar. While doing so, Tpr. Hawkins located two men on the floor with apparent gunshot wounds. One, who complained of being shot in the leg, shouted that the other man had shot him. The other man was unresponsive and appeared to have been shot in the abdomen and the thoracic region with an exit wound in his chest. A gun lay nearby. Tpr. Hawkins directed the Cape Girardeau officer to keep bystanders away from the gun as he began treating the unresponsive man.

Tpr. Hawkins located some paper towels and applied them to the abdomen wound. When the man's weak pulse stopped, he began cardio-pulmonary resuscitation, but saw this increased the man's bleeding. Concerned the man would bleed out, Tpr. Hawkins directed a security guard to bring him plastic wrap from the kitchen and used it to cover the chest wound. Once medical personnel arrived, Tpr. Hawkins assisted them with their evaluation and the application of chest seals to wounds in the man's thoracic region. The man was flown to a St. Louis hospital and, after undergoing multiple surgeries over several weeks, was released from intensive care and continues to recover. Tpr. Hawkins' quick response and outside-the-box thinking helped save this man's life.

To recognize his quick response and outside-the-box thinking, the Department of Public Safety named Tpr. Hawkins the May 2023 Sworn Team Member of the Month. Deputy Director Kevin Bond (DPS) presented the award at a ceremony on June 7 at Troop E Headquarters.

"I'm very proud of Tpr. Hawkins and the contributions he has made to the citizens of Missouri throughout his law

enforcement career," said Colonel Eric T. Olson during the presentation. "This case is another example of his commitment to service and excellence."

Captain Philip E. Gregory (E) also recognized Tpr. Hawkins saying, "Our officers often encounter those we serve during the most desperate times of their life. That was certainly the case here. Tpr. Hawkins performed in an exemplary manner and represented our agency well."

Concerned the man would bleed out, Tpr. Hawkins directed a security guard to bring him plastic wrap from the kitchen and used it to cover the chest wound.



1. Col. Eric Olson congratulates Tpr. Orrin Hawkins (E).



2. (l to r) Col. Eric Olson, Major Mike Turner (Q/FOB), Capt. Phil Gregory (E), Tpr. Orrin Hawkins (E), and DPS Deputy Director Kevin Bond paused for a photo after the ceremony.



SOCIAL MEDIA SNAPSHOT

The week before they graduated, the 117th Recruit Class accepted a pickleball challenge against members of Field Operations Bureau, Criminal Justice Information Services, Recruiting and Community Outreach, and Water Patrol divisions. A friendly competition ensued, and fun was had by all.



PATROL WELCOMES TWO

K9s



Sgt. Nathan D. Wallace (F) and his new K-9 partner, Emilka, started working the road together on June 1, 2023, when she finished training. Emilka is about 15 months old. She hails from Belarus and is a Dutch shepherd.

**"PLEASURE
in the job puts
PERFECTION
in the work."**
— Aristotle



Sgt. Terry J. Adams (B) and his new K-9 partner, Randy, began working the road together on June 1, 2023. Randy finished training on May 26. K-9 Randy was born in Poland and was 21 months old when this picture was taken.

CRIMINALS ARE NOT WELCOME IN MISSOURI!

Sgt. Shane M. Hux (H)

On December 21, 2022, Division of Drug and Crime Control Sergeant Greg D. Primm received information related to a suspect involved in a kidnap-for-ransom. He obtained a description of the suspect vehicle and possible routes of travel. Sgt. Primm then went to work and coordinated Patrol personnel to assist with locating the suspect. The vehicle was located at a gas station along Interstate 35 in Clinton County.

Trooper Josh H. Thompson later stopped the suspect vehicle after observing a traffic violation on Interstate 35 in Daviess County. The driver and four occupants of the vehicle were identified roadside, and Tpr. Thompson arrested the driver for not possessing a valid driver's license. The driver was transported to the Daviess DeKalb Regional Jail in Pattonsburg, MO.

At the jail, the driver was interviewed, and he admitted to being involved in a kidnapping-for-ransom conspiracy. Based upon subsequent interviews, Sgt. Primm and Tpr. Thompson discovered the three passengers in the suspect's vehicle were being smuggled to Minnesota. This investigation led officials to the recovery of an additional 17 individuals in Texas, some of which were locked in closets.

The superb investigation skills and teamwork of Sgt. Primm and Tpr. Thompson resulted in at least one suspect being identified and 20 individuals being rescued. Their hard work and dedication stopped the exploitation of at least 20 individuals and saved countless others.

As a result of their actions, the Department of Public Safety named them DPS Sworn Team Members of the Month for June 2023. On June 29, 2023, DPS Director Sandra K. Karsten, Colonel Eric T. Olson, and Major Mike A. Turner (Q/FOB) recognized Sgt. Primm and Tpr. Thompson for during a special presentation at Troop H Headquarters. Director Karsten and Colonel Olson expressed their gratitude and presented each officer with plaques and challenge coins.

"The effort by Sgt. Primm and Tpr. Thompson is a great example of strong commitment to serving not just the citizens of Missouri, but those in other states as well," said Col. Olson. "On behalf of the entire agency, I commend them for their perseverance and professionalism."

"This was an excellent example of what can be achieved when multiple agencies work together," said Capt. Skoglund (H). "We are grateful for Sgt. Primm and Tpr. Thompson's actions, initiative, and commitment to protecting victims."

During the award ceremony, Tpr. Thompson thanked Sgt. Primm for his leadership and guidance.

Sgt. Primm stated, "I'm still excited to be a cop." He wants every criminal to know they are not welcome in Missouri.

Congratulations Sgt. Primm and Tpr. Thompson on a job well done!!



(l to r) Col. Eric Olson, Sgt. Jason Cross (H), Sgt. Greg Primm, Tpr. Josh Thompson, Director Sandra K. Karsten, Capt. Shawn Skoglund (H), and Major Mike Turner (Q/FOB) pause for a photo after the award presentation.



(l to r) Col. Eric Olson, Sgt. Greg Primm, Tpr. Josh Thompson, and Director Sandra K. Karsten are pictured.

Patrol Welcomes 11 NEW TROOPERS

By Cheryl D. Cobb

Public Info. Spec. III (Q/PIED)

At the first chime from St. Peter Catholic Church's bell, the Patrol's command staff and dignitaries filed in and took their places, while troop commanders and Academy instructors wound their way down the Capitol steps to their seats on the south lawn. Cue the entrance of the 117th Recruit Class, which marched to a cadence to their front row seats. The stage was set: It was time for graduation exercises for the 117th Recruit Class to begin.

Captain Joe Armistead (Q/TND) served as emcee and welcomed everyone in attendance. The Troop F Color Guard presented the flags and Sergeant Andrew A. Henry (H) sang the national anthem. Pastor Doug Richey, Pisgah Baptist Church, Excelsior Springs, MO, provided both invocation and benediction.

"In a few moments, when I administer your oath, something profound will happen," said the Honorable Patricia Breckenridge, during her keynote address. "Who you are will change forever. You will be a member of the MSHP. Being a Missouri state trooper isn't something you do, it is who you are."

Justice Breckenridge encouraged

the new troopers to, "Take a quiet moment and ask yourself what it means to be a state trooper." She told them they were entering into a special relationship with every other state trooper. "Everything you do reflects on them, and everything they do reflects on you. Live your life professionally and how you want society to think of all state troopers."

Justice Breckenridge directed the new troopers to live by the Patrol's Core Values. "If you commit to be a person of integrity, you are more likely to do the right thing both in moments of crisis and after deliberation ... Look around this gallery and around your troop. Identify the best examples and model yourselves after them."

Justice Breckenridge then administered the Oath of Office to the new troopers.

After the class was commissioned, Colonel Eric T. Olson addressed the new troopers. He encouraged them to never lose sight of their opportunity to serve. He encouraged them by stressing that although extreme opinions are often heard, the majority of Missourians are supportive of what troopers do. "When you report to your first shift, remember your commitment, and most importantly, return home safely." He closed by congratulating the class and saying he,

the command staff, troop commanders, and zone sergeants are committed to providing the quality training and support the new troopers need.

The class awards were presented by Col. Olson with Justice Breckenridge. Trooper Levi G. Tiller accepted the Academics Award, Physical Fitness Award, and Superintendent's Award. Trooper John K. Rizer accepted the Firearms Award.

The class commander, Tpr. Tiller, spoke on behalf of his class, expressing their appreciation for family support, instructors, and civilian Academy staff. He then spoke directly to his classmates, "... let us not forget the responsibility we bear. We are the guardians of justice entrusted with the duty to safeguard the innocent, to defend the vulnerable, and uphold the principles that uphold a just society. Together, we have the power to affect positive change, to continue the great tradition of this great agency, and to set the example for those who will follow us. Let us always strive to be the best versions of ourselves." He reminded those present of the Patrol's Core Values and told his fellow graduates, "May we carry these values with us and inspire others to do the same."

Congratulations, 117th Recruit Class!

Listed below are the names and first assignments of the 117th Recruit Class.

TROOP A

Trooper Mary E. Groner, Jefferson City, MO, Cass County
Trooper Timothy W. Heintz, Ridgeway, MO, Clay County

TROOP C

Trooper Dalton B. Howell, Thayer, MO, South St. Louis County
Trooper Caleb C. De Alba, Naylor, MO, South St. Louis County
Trooper Michael S. Ogborn, Foristell, MO, St. Charles County
Trooper Jade M. Doyle, Carthage, MO, North St. Louis County
Trooper Hunter L. Rivera, Steelville, MO, South St. Louis County

TROOP F

Trooper John K. Rizer, Camdenton, MO, Marine Operations
Trooper Levi G. Tiller, Boonville, MO, Morgan/Moniteau Counties

TROOP I

Trooper Igor V. Brutsky-Stempkovsky, Willard, MO, Pulaski/Maries Counties
Trooper Gary W. Picard, Willow Springs, MO, Crawford County



Introducing the most recently commissioned troopers! The 117th Recruit Class graduated Friday, June 23, 2023. Pictured are (front row, l to r) Troopers John Rizer, Timothy Heintz, Hunter Rivera, Mary Groner, Caleb De Alba, Igor Brutsky-Stempkovsky (back row, l to r) Troopers Levi Tiller, Jade Doyle, Gary Picard, Michael Ogborn, and Dalton Howell.



TROOPERS REFLECT ON ACADEMY EXPERIENCE

By Cheryl D. Cobb
Public Information Specialist III (Q/PIED)

Three representatives of the 117th Recruit Class took time to provide some insight into the group's experience at the Patrol's Law Enforcement Academy. Recently commissioned Troopers Hunter L. Rivera, John R. Rizer, and Levi G. Tiller sat and talked with me a couple weeks prior to graduation. The troopers felt part of a small recruit class was beneficial regarding the stages of team development and said they all got along well.

"The good thing about having a small class is when one struggles, we pick each other up," said Tpr. Rivera.

All of them spoke highly of the training they received.

"The level of training here is far above the training I received prior to coming here," said Tpr. Rizer.

Yet, some classes resonated more than others.

For Tpr. Rivera, it was tactical communication, taught by Sergeant Andy A. Armstrong. "Sgt. Armstrong taught us how to speak with people and not make them angry, to be aware of what you say to people and how it might come across to them."

Tpr. Tiller pointed to Corporal Chad A. Heil and traffic law. "It's a big part of our job and a lengthy subject. The way Cpl. Heil taught the class was engaging and he thought outside the box. He made the material as interesting as possible while still getting the information across."

"Cpl. Heil made us excited to come to class for one of the most boring subjects," agreed Tpr. Rivera.

"I've had DWI training in the past, and Cpl. [Ryan L.] Hutton is a wealth of knowledge. The way he brought his enthusiasm to class every day, you could tell it meant something more to him than simply working a DWI."

The members of the 117th Recruit Class look forward to reaching their assignments.

"I'm going to a busy zone," said Tpr. Rivera. "It will be a good place to see how things actually work rather than

seeing it on paper. It'll be good experience."

"I look forward to going to work every day committing myself to a process that is more than training," said Tpr. Tiller, "... getting to know the people in my zone, and developing as a trooper."

Tpr. Rizer will complete his training with a field training officer on the road, then transfer to marine operations. He is looking forward to

working in a place with which he is familiar alongside his best friend,

Trooper Casey A. Marks (F), who graduated with the 114th Recruit Class. Once assigned, Tpr. Marks called him and said, "You gotta do this!"

There are things the 117th Recruit Class members won't miss about life at the Academy. Having more control over their daily schedule was a much-anticipated part of graduating.

However, before they leave the Academy, the class wanted to give a shoutout to Captain Mike A. Petlansky (Q/WPD) and Trooper R.

Mike Malone (Q/RCOD). These two officers voluntarily ran five miles each Friday morning alongside the class.

"I wouldn't be in the shape I am without Tpr. Malone," said Tpr. Rivera.

"Capt. Petlansky raised morale, and if it wasn't for Tpr. Malone, I wouldn't be here," said Tpr. Rizer. "He pushed me for years."

As expected, the members of the 117th Recruit Class have some advice for future recruits.

"Get to running," said Tpr. Rizer. "If they aren't running already, they are behind. Also, don't take the Academy home. You have time to get done what you need to get done while you're here."

"Captain Petlansky raised morale, and if it wasn't for Trooper Malone, I wouldn't be here," said Trooper Rizer."



1. Troop F's Color Guard expertly executes their mission to present the colors.
2. Col. Eric Olson (r) congratulated the Honorable Patricia Breckenridge on her impending retirement and expressed his appreciation for her service by presenting her with a superintendent's coin.
3. The 117th Recruit Class members made their entrance into the graduation ceremony.
4. The new troopers exit graduation and file into the Capitol in order to sign their oath of office.
5. Ret. Sgt. Danial Dicus welcomes his nephew, Tpr. Hunter Rivera, to the Patrol.
6. Tpr. Levi Tiller accepts the Superintendent's Award from Col. Eric Olson. The Honorable Patricia Breckenridge, Missouri Supreme Court, also congratulated him.
7. Tpr. Todd B. Heintz (H) presented a nametag withw "Heintz CVO Chief" to his son, Tpr. Timothy W. Heintz, at graduation. (Retired CVO Chief Paul Heintz died in 2017.) "It was my attempt to include Dad in the moment in a significant way," said Tpr. Todd Heintz. "He would have been very proud to attend his grandson's graduation."
8. The new troopers take their oath of office.

PATROL HISTORY



TRIVIA

Lee [Porter] and I (retired Capt. Ashurst) were conducting an undercover narcotic investigation in New Madrid County in the early 1970s. We had just made a purchase of marijuana from a dealer in the city of New Madrid [MO], and before we could leave town, we were stopped by the New Madrid Police Department. I don't recall the exact details of the stop, but the officers found our purchase. We were soon en route to the city jail. We did not try to identify ourselves to the officers, because of information we had previously received that one of their officers could not be trusted.

We were placed in a jail cell and after what seemed like several hours (probably about 15 minutes) Trooper Melvin E. Duckworth arrived along with FBI Agent Bill Burton. It appeared that they had been called in to interrogate Porter and me. As soon as I was alone with Tpr. Duckworth, I explained the situation of who we were and what had occurred. (It should be noted that

Tpr. Duckworth eventually became director of the Division of Drug and Crime Control and retired with the rank of major.) He told me that the officers who had arrested us were trustworthy. After some discussion between all of the officers involved, Tpr. Duckworth returned to our cell and told me that it had been agreed that we would be released to the custody of Agent Burton and Tpr. Duckworth to supposedly be transported to the county jail in Mauldin, MO.

The police chief had asked him if we were carrying weapons. I informed Tpr. Duckworth that we both had guns in our boots and Lee had a switchblade knife in his pocket. The chief did not take this news very well and was somewhat upset with the arresting officers. We later learned that the police were informed we had marijuana in our vehicle by the dealers who sold it to us. Their motive in having us arrested was to see if we were narcotics officers.

Retired Lieutenant Ed N. Moses is gathering information about the history of the Patrol's Narcotics Unit. While researching, he interviewed retired Captain Robert E. Ashurst, the agency's first narcotics officer, who shared this personal story with him.

WITH
sympathy

Our deepest sympathy goes to the following personnel who have lost a member of their family:

Sgt. Bill E. Oliver (GD) - mother
Tpr. Chris E. Leach (E) - grandfather
Sgt. Travis L. Williams (Q/DDCC) - father-in-law
Sgt. Heath A. Sears (Q/FOB) - mother
Sgt. Chris D. Hamlett (Q/DDCC) - mother
Sgt. Shane M. Kaden (C) - father-in-law
Ret. Sgt. Cindy D. Newton - father
Acct. Clerk Demetria Vasquez (A) - brother, grandmother
Tech. III Angela K. Schepers (Q/PRD) - husband's grandmother
DE III Dean E. Durr (D) - father
Asst. Dir. Rich L. Hargrove (Q/DVSD) - father
Tpr. Todd B. Heintz (H) - grandmother
Comm. Oper. III Melanie A. Stallsworth (H) - grandmother
Tpr. Timothy W. Heintz (A) - great-grandmother

Ret. Capt. Ronald L. Walker - father
Sgt. Jeff D. Spire (A) - father
Clerk Typist I Madison N. Pummill (A) - grandmother
Comm. Oper. III Lori K. Downey (B) - father
MVI Chief Eric W. Gibson (D) - brother
CVO Darrin J. Davis (E) - father
CVO Mark P. Lamphier (A) - mother
Ret. Food Service Manager Betty R. Burnett - husband
Ret. Asst. Garage Supt. Edgar R. Backers - wife
Ret. CVO Sprv. Rickey J. Burnett - wife
Telecom. Maria T. Moore (F) - father
Tpr. G. Tyler Hackett (D) - grandmother
Ret. Clerk Typist III Sandra S. Hale - husband

*thank
you*

My family and I would like to sincerely thank Colonel Eric T. Olson and all other Patrol employees for the many phone calls, messages, cards, family night, and funeral visits, etc., after the death of my dad, Joel Smith. It was truly humbling, impressive, and much appreciated by our entire extended family and friends. May each of you be blessed accordingly.

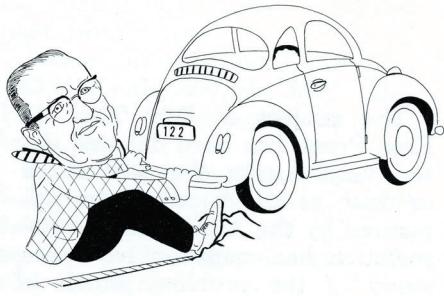
- Ret. Sgt. Gregory D. Smith

My entire family and I would like to thank all of you for your thoughts, prayers, cards, calls, and messages during the illness and passing of my father, Sergeant Pat Spire. Dad was honored to be a trooper and enjoyed the friendship and comradery of everyone. The outpouring of support for him and his family has been very comforting and appreciated.

- Sgt. Jeff D. Spire (A)

55 YEARS AGO JULY 1968

Colonel E.I. "Mike" Hockaday and Sergeant Alvin R. Lubker were en route to the Missouri Traffic Courts Conference in Columbia, MO. While making an exit from one of the Missouri University parking lots, a Volkswagen was observed coming toward Missouri State Highway Patrol car number one. It was also observed to be in motion with no driver behind the wheel as the car was rolling down an incline. While Sgt. Lubker was making an effort to dodge the driverless car, Col. Hockaday jumped from the vehicle, ran to the run-away car, grabbed the bumper, and after several feet of skid marks from the colonel's heels, both he and the Volkswagen finally came to a screeching halt. After the vehicle was pushed back to where it originated, Col. Hockaday turned to Sgt. Lubker and said, "I guess we can put this down as a 'service rendered.'"



45 YEARS AGO AUGUST 1978

The Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms Bureau recognized Cpl. E. Lee Porter for his undercover work during a sting operation in Kansas City. Cpl. Porter assisted the ATF and Kansas City (MO) Police Department in a highly successful operation which resulted in 150 people being arrested. The subjects were involved in over 500 violations of state and federal law. Over \$1.5 million in stolen property was recovered.

35 YEARS AGO JULY 1988

According to an article in this issue, an interesting traffic stop occurred May 1, 1988. Trooper Owen W. Hinkle (C) stopped a vehicle that was a casket with four tires and a 302 Chevy engine, steering wheel, and a driver. Tpr. Hinkle cited the driver for an improperly registered vehicle.



“I am not afraid of tomorrow, for I have seen yesterday, and I love today.”

– William Allen White,
newspaper editor,
politician, author

25 YEARS AGO AUGUST 1998

The Motor Vehicle Inspection Division unveiled its School Bus Fleet Excellence Award. The program was modeled after a program used in Michigan. It was intended as an incentive for school bus fleets to maintain buses that pass the initial Patrol inspection with a 95 percent or better score. Excellent fleets received stickers to affix on the uppermost portion of the bus's first window behind the service door. (This program is still in effect today.)



15 YEARS AGO JULY/AUGUST 2008

The Division of Drug and Crime Control produced and sold a cookbook to raise money for families in need. This issue announced the Officer of the Year award had been named after Sergeant Benjamin O. Booth, the first trooper to lose his life in the line of duty. After hearing about this change, Owanna Booth Allen (his daughter) said, "That puts a smile in my heart."

5 YEARS AGO JULY/AUGUST 2018

Missouri became one of three states in the nation approved for the Federal Rap Back program. The 50th Uniform Safety Education Officers Workshop occurred. Keynote speaker Brigadier General/Patrol retired lieutenant) Gregory D. Mason told the 105th Recruit Class, "Conduct yourself with honor; your reputation is key," during their graduation ceremony.

Congratulations

on your Retirement!

For your years of dedicated service, loyalty, and selfless giving, we thank you.



D. RUSS DUNWIDDIE

Assistant Director
Q/PRD

Retired June 1, 2023.
28 years, nine months of dedicated service.



KYNDAL L. GORDON

CVO Sprv.
Troop B

Retired June 1, 2023.
28 years, two months of dedicated service.



GREGORY K. LEFTWICH

Lieutenant
Troop B

Retired June 1, 2023.
33 years, five months of dedicated service.



R. SCOTT MILLER

Corporal
Troop F

Retired June 1, 2023.
27 years, eleven months of dedicated service.



DENNIS S. BONUCHI

Comm. Oper. III
Troop B

Retired July 1, 2023.
21 years, seven months of dedicated service.



KRISTIN D. COULSON

Lieutenant
Q/HRD

Retired July 1, 2023.
30 years, six months of dedicated service.



BRYAN C. GRUBEN

Sergeant
Q/FOB

Retired July 1, 2023.
26 years, three months of dedicated service.



F. JENNIFER JACKSON

DE Sprv.
TROOP A

Retired July 1, 2023.
16 years, seven months of dedicated service.



LINDELL E. ROTH

Comm. Oper. III
Troop B

Retired July 1, 2023.
21 years, seven months of dedicated service.



J. SHANE STEWART

Sergeant
Q/DDCC

Retired July 1, 2023.
24 years, six months of dedicated service.



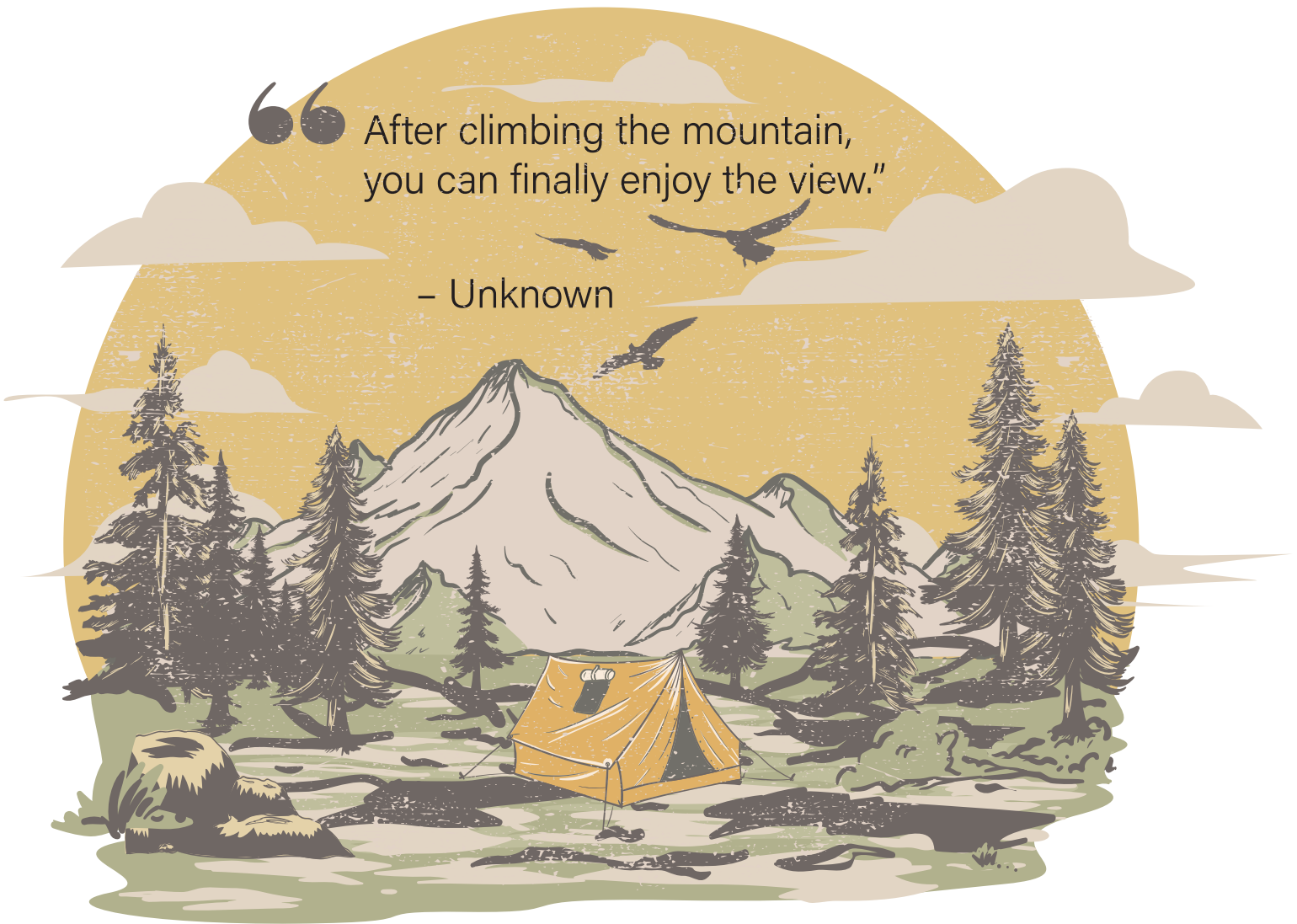
JAMES E. THUSS

Corporal
Troop A

Retired July 1, 2023.
27 years of dedicated service.

“After climbing the mountain,
you can finally enjoy the view.”

– Unknown





The 14th CVO Class included (l to r) CVO Elijah Floyd, CVO Darrin Davis, CVO Jacob Hutchings Jr., and CVO Jessica Mack.

Congratulations

14th CVO Class!

By Cheryl D. Cobb
Public Info. Spec. III (Q/PIED)

Friday, June 2, was graduation day for the 14th Commercial Vehicle Officer Class and they were ready. It had been a long, challenging 22-week Academy. The four graduates appreciated and respected the training, and shared a few of the many important "take-aways" gained. From how to communicate with people they come into contact with to the various interactive training segments, they leave with the confidence they can trust the knowledge they've gained. The new CVOs, Darrin J. Davis (E), Elijah C. Floyd (D), Jacob L. Hutchings Jr. (I), and Jessica E. Mack (C) felt the training was of the highest caliber, and gave shout-outs to the hands-on experiences and to Corporal Chad A. Heil (Q/TND) and Sergeant Bret E. Brooks (Q/TND).

CVO Hutchins will be assigned a scale truck, "I'm going to the road looking forward to it."

CVOs Davis, Mack, Floyd are assigned to weigh stations and echoed that sentiment. They all want their families to know they've been trained well, and are prepared for their jobs.

"We have appreciated their support throughout training," said CVO Mack.

Their graduation occurred in the second-floor conference

room of the Waggoner Building with Chief Brandon S. Whittington serving as emcee. He welcomed everyone and acknowledged the commitment their families had made so they could attend training. The Honorable Jon E. Beetem, 19th Judicial Circuit, then administered Oath of Office to the newly commissioned commercial vehicle officers.

Colonel Eric T. Olson congratulated the new commercial vehicle officers and expressed his appreciation to them for supporting the class throughout their training. "Training is not easy. There is a lot of material to learn," he said to the class. "Your commitment to be here today is important. It's the same thing that will make you successful in your career." He referenced the recent major holiday and the many traffic fatalities. Recognizing that drivers can sometimes be frustrated by traffic when behind commercial vehicles, "They aren't thinking about whether that



1. Chief Brandon Whittington (Q/CVED) presents the Firearms Award to CVO Elijah Floyd. 2. The Honorable Jon Beetem, 19th Judicial Court, witnessed CVO Jessica Mack sign her Oath of Office. 3. Col. Eric Olson presents CVO Jacob Hutchings Jr. with his POST license. 4. Chief Brandon Whittington (Q/CVED) presents the Academics Award to CVO Darrin Davis.

truck is safe, because we are. At times, it might seem routine to you. But the importance of what you do can't be overstated. The general public might not recognize that, but I do."

Major Benjamin C. Jones (Q/SSB) also congratulated the class. "You will become the face of the Patrol to a large segment of the population," he said. "Treat people right. Remember your training and go home safely after your shift. You represent the Missouri State Highway Patrol both on duty and off."

Colonel Olson presented each member of the class with their POST license and two awards were announced. CVO

Davis earned the Academics Award with a GPA of 94.3%. CVO Floyd earned the Firearms Award with a score of 96.78%.

CVO Hutchings served as the class commander and spoke at the graduation. "Each day, we hold the power to make a difference," said CVO Hutchings. He also reminded his classmates that with every enforcement contact, they have the ability to keep our roads safer. "As we move forward, let us remember the significance of our role, uphold the values that define us, and commit ourselves to a future filled with excellence and service."

Congratulations, 14th CVO Class!

Cpl. Barrett Recognized For HISTORIC ARREST

By Sgt. Mike P. McClure (D)

On Friday May 12, 2023, Director Sandra K. Karsten, Department of Public Safety, Colonel Eric T. Olson, and Major Mike A. Turner (Q/FOB) presented Corporal Tim A. Barrett (D) with the May 2023 Team Member of the Month award at Troop D Headquarters in Springfield, Missouri. Cpl. Barrett's wife, Jessica, was present to celebrate his being honored.

In 2022, Cpl. Barrett's dedication to criminal patrol work resulted in a historic criminal arrest, with the following details:

At approximately 12:20 a.m. November 29, 2022, Cpl. Barrett stopped an eastbound vehicle for excessive speed on Interstate 44. What started as a normal traffic stop changed, as Cpl. Barrett observed several occurrences of suspicious behavior, and during his conversation with the driver. A subsequent search of the vehicle resulted in the seizure of 170 pounds of crystal methamphetamine, three handguns, cocaine, and marijuana. It is believed to be the largest seizure

ever of methamphetamine in the state of Missouri. This arrest led to a nexus with a large, nationwide cocaine trafficking organization under investigation by the Drug Enforcement Administration. Cpl. Barrett undoubtedly made Missouri's highways safer, as well as our communities, with this arrest. A seizure of this nature impacts the safety of thousands of citizens in many states. During the ceremony Colonel Eric Olson congratulated Cpl. Barrett and said, "The true impact of the seizure was difficult to measure."

"Cpl. Barrett relied upon his training and followed his instincts during this traffic stop, where he took the time to look beyond the initial stop," said Capt. D. Scott Sater. "His investigative efforts led to one of the largest roadside methamphetamine seizures in the state of Missouri. This is an outstanding example of great police work, and clearly, Cpl. Barrett's actions made our state and communities safer."



(l to r) Sgt. Tom Hall (D), DPS Director Sandra Karsten, Capt. Scott Sater (D), Cpl. Tim Barrett (D), Mrs. Jessica Barrett, Col. Eric Olson, and Major Mike Turner are pictured.

AGO SALUTES DNA Casework Section

Submitted by Crime Laboratory Division



(l to r) Asst. Dir. Stacey Bolinger (Q/CLD) and Crim. Sprv. Marcy Stiefel (Q/CLD) hold their service awards from the Missouri Attorney General.

The Crime Laboratory Division's DNA Casework Section, with the support of the CODIS Section, has played an integral role in the success of the Missouri Sexual Assault Kit Initiative Project. This nationwide initiative began in 2015 to help states inventory and test sexual assault forensic evidence (SAFE) kits and upload offender DNA profiles into a national database. States are then able to investigate and prosecute cases in which offender DNA profiles match existing records in the database. The Crime Lab Division has worked on this project in conjunction with the Missouri Attorney General's Office.

Criminalists III Amanda Paulus, Gretchen Hagen, and Diane Higgins, and Forensic Laboratory Technician II Caileigh O'Neal have worked diligently for the past three years to compile and report DNA profiling results for sexual assault kits processed under the MO

SAFE Kit Initiative. Throughout this time, the DNA Casework team has been instrumental in reviewing data, entering SAKI case information into the laboratory's LIMS system, vetting case information, entering profiles into the FBI's Combined DNA Index System (CODIS), writing reports, and reviewing reports. The dedication of the DNA Casework Section to the SAKI program has led to the entry of almost 1,000 case profiles into the CODIS database and resulted in over 400 CODIS hits to SAKI case profiles.

On June 1, 2023, Criminalist Supervisor Marcy Stiefel and Assistant Director Stacey Bolinger received SAFE Kit Initiative service awards from the Missouri Attorney General for their work on the SAKI project. Crim. Sprv. Stiefel serves as an advisor for the SAFETrack software which was developed by the AG's office to track kits from manufacture through collection, processing, and

storage. In addition, she advises the AG's office on potential software enhancements and assists with troubleshooting when problems arise. Asst. Dir. Bolinger serves in an advisory capacity to the AG's office and works to establish contracts for outsourcing the testing and review of sexual assault kits. Additionally, she assists with kit inventory by providing information on current backlogs within the laboratory system and testing performed on kits previously submitted to the laboratory. Asst. Dir. Bolinger served as chair for the testing subcommittee that set guidelines for kits to be tested under the grant. She also served on the SAFETrack development subcommittee and continues to serve as a member of the SAKI working group, which meets quarterly to review actions by the AG's office and advise on future actions.



High fives to the Crime Laboratory Division's DNA Casework Section, which includes employees assigned to the Cape Girardeau, Jefferson City, and Springfield labs. Pictured are: (front row, l to r) Criminalist Sprv. Kristina Mehl, Criminalist III Teresa Shank, Criminalist III Gretchen Hagen, Criminalist III Courtney Workman, Criminalist I Stephanie Lammers, Criminalist Sprv. Shena Latcham, Criminalist III Nikki Bates, and Criminalist I Allyson Henke; (back row, l to r) Criminalist Sprv. Jason Wyckoff, Criminalist II Nicole Meister, Criminalist II Morgan Ewing, Criminalist II Stacy Brown, Criminalist II Patrick Smith Jr., Criminalist III Amanda Paulus, Forensic Lab. Tech. I Shane Greaser, Criminalist III Diane Higgins, and Forensic Lab. Tech. II Caileigh O'Neal. Not pictured were Criminalist III Jackson Scanlon, Criminalist III Garrett Schmitz, Criminalist III Jena Grahn, and Forensic Lab. Tech. I Daniel Perkins.

POLICE ACADEMY CLASS HONORS TROOPER TATOIAN



On June 22, 2023, Class #207 graduated from the St. Louis County and Municipal Police Academy at the Maritz Event Center in Fenton, MO. Class #207 was dedicated in the memory of Trooper Ralph C. Tatoian #1140. Members of the Tatoian family, Deborah, Mary Ann, and Ralph, and family friend, Nick, attended the graduation with representatives from Troop C, and the Public Information and Education Division.

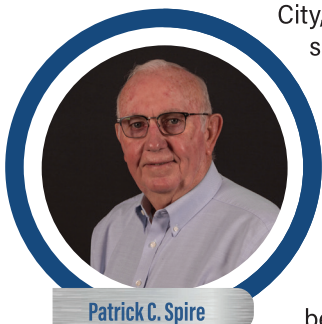
DEATHS



Larry R. Walker

LARRY R. WALKER

Retired Captain Larry R. Walker, 86, of Jefferson City, MO, died Wednesday, May 17, 2023, at home with family by his side. After high school, Larry began work at Gillioz Construction Company and served in the Missouri Army National Guard until he was honorably discharged. Larry devoted over three decades to the Missouri State Highway Patrol before retiring in 1991. His career commenced in 1958 as a driver examiner. On July 1, 1960, he joined the Missouri State Highway Patrol as a member, and after training was assigned to Troop I, Rolla, MO. In 1969, he transferred to General Headquarters in Jefferson City, where he served in the Motor Vehicle Inspection Division. Larry continuously contributed his expertise to the Motor Vehicle Inspection Division, ultimately retiring with the rank of captain in 1991. Survivors include his wife of 67 years, Jerry; four children, including retired Captain Ronald L. Walker; two siblings; a former daughter-in-law; 10 grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; several nieces and nephews; and special friends for more than 50 years, Bob and Sherry Holt. To learn more about Larry's life, visit the Freeman Mortuary website. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions are suggested to Concord Baptist Church, 3724 West Truman Boulevard, Jefferson City, MO 65109. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Walker family.



Patrick C. Spire

PATRICK C. SPIRE

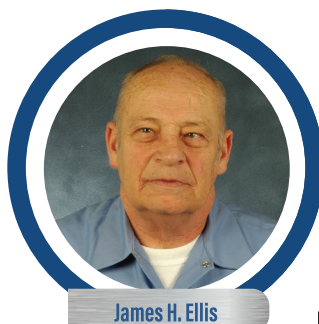
Patrick C. Spire, 76, of Blue Springs, MO, died Saturday, May 20, 2023, at his home. He was born March 19, 1947, to Cleo and Mabel (Tuttle) Spire in Lodi, CA. After serving in the U.S. Army, he became a member of the Missouri State Highway Patrol. Pat retired as a sergeant after 33 years of dedicated service. Pat is survived by his loving wife of 52 years, Virginia, of Blue Springs, MO; two sons, including Sergeant Jeff D. Spire (A), three grandchildren, three great-grandchildren with another expected to arrive in July, a sister, and many other cherished family members and friends. Pat was preceded in death by his parents and one grandson. Those wanting to learn more about Pat's life can visit the Meyers Funeral Chapel website. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Spire family.



LaFern M. Lane

LAFERN M. LANE

LaFern M. Lane, 87, of Jefferson City, MO, died Tuesday, May 23, 2023, at Jefferson City Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. Fernie was a 1953 graduate of Jackson Senior High School in Jackson, MO. In 1954 Fernie married Earl W. Stovall and from this marriage her two children were born. On September 12, 2009, she married Dale L. Lane. Fernie began her career with the Missouri State Highway Patrol as a clerk typist at General Headquarters, Jefferson City, MO. She retired after almost 15 years of dedicated service. Survivors include one son, three stepdaughters, two grandchildren, four great-grandchildren, six step-grandchildren, seven step-great-grandchildren, one step-great-great-grandson; a sister-in-law, and numerous nieces and nephews. Memorial contributions are suggested to Wesley United Methodist Church or the Alzheimer's Association by mailing contributions to P.O. Box 95, Jefferson City, MO 65102. To learn more about Fernie's life, visit the Freeman Mortuary website. The Patrol extends its sincerest condolences to the Lane family.



James H. Ellis

JAMES H. ELLIS

James H. Ellis, a devoted family man and dedicated public servant, died Friday, June 9, 2023, surrounded by his loved ones. He leaves behind a legacy of selflessness, commitment, and love. After proudly serving his country for three years in the U.S. Army, James embarked on a distinguished career at the Missouri State Highway Patrol. He worked as an automotive technician assigned to Troop C, and retired in 2006 after 16 years of faithful service. Throughout his tenure, he exemplified professionalism, integrity, and unwavering dedication, earning the respect and admiration of his colleagues and the community. James is survived by his loving wife, Patricia, two daughters, and three grandchildren. James was laid to rest with military honors. To learn more about him, visit the Bopp Chapel Funeral and Cremation Services website. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to the American Lung Association to help further research on COPD via their website. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Ellis family.





Rosella M. Vieth

ROSELLA M. VIETH

Rosella M. Vieth, 91, of Jefferson City, MO, died Saturday, June 17, 2023, at home surrounded by her loving family and cats. She was a 1949 graduate of Jefferson City High School. She worked at the Missouri State Highway Patrol for nearly 39 years. Rosie first joined the Patrol as a teletype operator at General Headquarters. When she retired in 1996, she was a fingerprint technician assigned to the Criminal Records Division. She is survived by two children, seven grandchildren, and numerous great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, John C. Vieth. In lieu of flowers, expressions of sympathy may be made to Wild Thing-Feral Feline Fix in care of Tropical Tans, 719 Michigan Street or Central Missouri Hospice, 1001 Southwest Boulevard Suite A, Jefferson City, MO 65109. To learn more about Rosella, visit the Millard Family Chapels website. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Vieth family.



Kenneth K. Hale

KENNETH K. HALE

Kenneth K. Hale, 72, died Wednesday, June 21, 2023, at his home in Urich, MO. Kenneth grew up in Clinton, MO, and graduated from Clinton High School in 1969. He worked for the Missouri State Highway Patrol as a building and grounds maintenance supervisor assigned to Troop A. Ken retired in 2009 after more than 20 years of dedicated service. Survivors include his wife, Sandy, his two daughters, three grandchildren, four siblings, and many extended family members. The family suggests memorial contributions be made to the Parkinson's Foundation Heartland Chapter in care of the Vansant-Mills Funeral Home in Clinton, MO. To learn more about Ken, visit the Vansant-Mills Funeral Home website. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Hale family.



Lester C. Mathews

LESTER C. MATHEWS

Lester C. "Curt" Mathews, 85, of Jefferson City, MO, died Friday, June 23, 2023, at Jefferson City Manor Care. He proudly served his country from 1961-1966, in both the U.S. Army and the Missouri National Guard as a military policeman. He served as a police officer in North Kansas City prior to being appointed to the Patrol in 1967 as a member of the 33rd Recruit Class. He retired in 1993 as a sergeant. Survivors include his wife of 40 years, Sue, of the home; a daughter, a son, six grandchildren, one brother, and extended family. The family suggests memorial contributions be made to Shriners Hospital for the Crippled Children in care of the Capital Shrine Club, P.O. Box 95, Jefferson City, MO 65102, or to The MASTERS, 780 County Road 383, Whitewater, MO 63785. To learn more about

Curt, visit the Freeman Mortuary website. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Mathews family.



WE REMEMBER.

TROOPERS CELEBRATE WITH *Will Sampietro*

Submitted by Troop D

*O*n Sunday, May 17, Will Sampietro, youngest son of John A. "Jay" Sampietro (EOW August 17, 2005) graduated from Logan-Rogersville High School. Several members of the Highway Patrol and firefighters from Logan-Rogersville Fire Department stood in for Jay as his son crossed the stage and received his diploma. This was a very special day for Will and his mom, Jennifer Sampietro-Zacher, as well as the Patrol family. Jay was a volunteer firefighter with Logan-Rogersville Fire Department, and his name and Patrol badge number is memorialized on their firefighting apparatus.



Members of the Patrol and Logan-Rogersville Fire Department attended Will Sampietro's graduation.



Congratulations from your Patrol family, Will.
The future is yours!

COMMUNICATIONS PERSONNEL ACCEPT MOAPCO AWARDS

By Zachary M. Dykes

Communications Operator III (Q/CommD)

Each year, the Missouri 911 Directors Association, Missouri Chapter of the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials (MOAPCO), and the Missouri Chapter of the National Emergency Number Association (MONENA) host an awards ceremony during the spring Missouri Public Safety Communications Conference. These awards recognize the actions and efforts of members of the emergency communications profession throughout Missouri. This year, the awards ceremony took place on Tuesday, March 21, at Margaritaville Lake Resort in Osage Beach, MO. Several Patrol communications personnel were nominated and selected, receiving three of the nine awards presented.

SUPERVISOR OF THE YEAR

Chief Operator Dawn M. Moore (E) was selected as the 2023 Supervisor of the Year. Chief Moore has been with the Patrol since being appointed in 1998, and has built many lasting friendships with co-workers and peers. She is seen as a leader in the public safety arena who works to emphasize the customer service aspect of the profession. Chief Moore was selected due to her positive impact, not only on her team, but also on the southeast region.

'GEORGE MAJOR' TRAINER OF THE YEAR

Communications Operator III Kendra L. Shell (E) was selected as the 2023 George Major Trainer of the Year for her continuous work to better her peers. She ensures the administration of required quarterly training at the troop level and routinely assists newly hired communications operators in learning the ins and outs of the Patrol's computer aided dispatch system while they train at the Academy. Comm. Oper. III Shell brings knowledge, skills, and abilities from her career experience and utilizes it to help develop the next generation of communications operators.

RADIO TECHNOLOGIST OF THE YEAR

Chief Technician James S. Adkins (Q/CommD) was selected as the 2023 Radio Technologist of the Year. As part of his duties, he is assigned to maintain and repair the Patrol's and Department of Public Safety's radio equipment located within parts of Troops D, G, and I – a total of 43 MOSWIN sites, one low-band site, and one microwave site. Beyond this, he routinely repairs and maintains radio and electronic equipment in the patrol vehicles, including MDC docks and radar units. He was essential in the

concept design and build out of the SWAT communications vehicle, a communications center placed within a Ford Explorer. It was because of his dedication in ensuring the continued operation of the statewide radio system, along with his selfless dedication in ensuring that road officers are taken care of, that Chief Adkins was selected.

Everyone in the Communications Division is extremely proud of these individuals and the way they represent themselves, the division, and the Patrol. These three employees are examples of how the division works hard to achieve the Patrol's mission and represent our core values. The nomination process for the 2024 awards program will open in November. Nominations can be submitted by anyone, including a supervisor, peer, subordinate, or officer. More information on the awards program, including a list of past recipients, can be found at mpsc911.org/annual-awards.

Chief Tech. James Adkins (r) accepted the Radio Technologist of the Year award from Missouri APCO. A representative from Commenco, which sponsors the award is also pictured (l).

Missouri APCO President Zachary Dykes (r) presented George Major Trainer of the Year award to Comm. Oper. III Kendra Shell (l).

Missouri NENA President Jamie Taylor (r) presented an award to Chief Oper. Dawn Moore (l).

A TIME TO Remember

Missourians Honor Their Fallen Heroes

By Cheryl D. Cobb
Public Information Specialist III (Q/PIED)

Missouri's Law Enforcement Memorial Service is an opportunity for family, friends, and co-workers of the fallen to gather and to honor our heroes in blue. It is a reminder that we are not alone on our grief journey. Governor Michael Parson and Missouri Attorney General Andrew Bailey spoke at the May 6 event. Eleven names were added to the memorial this year.

Prior to joining the Patrol, Trooper Nathan B. Poynter (G) served with the Cabool (MO) Police Department and had attended the Missouri Law Enforcement Memorial service. This year,

he attended as a trooper, having graduated December 2022 with the 115th Recruit Class.

"I had attended before, but it was a lot more special to be there as a trooper representing the Highway Patrol," said Tpr. Poynter. He escorted his grandmother, Mrs. Kathy Moore, to the memorial wreath to add a carnation in memory of his dad and her son, Tpr. Kelly L. Poynter, who made the ultimate sacrifice January 18, 2002. "It's good for families to come together with current officers," he said. "Law enforcement is a family; it's a cool thing to see."



Missouri's law enforcement salute their fallen brothers and sisters during the memorial service. (Photo courtesy of Missouri Department of Public Safety.)



(l to r) Lt. Alex Vivas (Q/RCOD) and Capt. Brian Daniel (Q/RDD) presented the Patrol's memorial wreath during the ceremony.



Sgt. Andy Henry (H) and Lt. Mike Quilty (H) served as escorts for (l to r) Mrs. Joan Sweets and Mrs. Kelly Kimberling, sister and widow of Sgt. Robert G. Kimberling, who made the ultimate sacrifice October 6, 1999.

"What we once enjoyed and

deeply loved we can *never lose,*

for all that we love deeply becomes *part of us."*

- Helen Keller



Sgt. Brooks McGinnis (A) and Trooper Trey A. Gaedke (C) escorted the Newton family during the memorial service. Tatum places a flower in the wreath as Rhett waits to do the same to honor their grandfather, Tpr. Michael L. Newton, who made the ultimate sacrifice on May 22, 2003. (Photo courtesy of Missouri Department of Public Safety.)



FIRST IN THE NATION

CJIS TEAM MEETS FBI MANDATE

By Cheryl D. Cobb
Public Information Specialist III (Q/PIED)

The Federal Bureau of Investigation mandated that all U.S. states begin utilizing a new National Information Exchange Model (NIEM) to interface with the National Crime Information Center (NCIC). Doing so ensures a consistent vocabulary across various applications and/or interfaces. This model had been applied to the NCIC and it was time for the next step. Hence, the FBI was tasking the Patrol with implementing the new NIEM NCIC Interface within the Missouri Uniform Law Enforcement System.

This daunting assignment was directed to the Application Development Section of the Criminal Justice Information Services Division and landed on the desks of Computer Info. Spec. Tech. II Todd D. Schneider, Computer Info. Tech. Spec. II Drew M. Wansing, and Computer Info. Tech. Spec. I Michelle L. Frey. One of their primary projects is the development of the MULES and the many interfaces that exchange criminal justice information with local, state, and federal partners.

The team worked many long hours to coordinate and implement the new interface within MULES and achieved their goal in October 2022. They went above and beyond on a daily basis and worked nights, weekends, and during scheduled vacations. The FBI confirmed that Missouri was the first in the nation to successfully

implement the NIEM NCIC interface requirements and congratulated the team for accomplishing such a smooth transition.

To recognize their work, the Department of Public Safety named them May 2023 Non-Sworn Team Members of the Month. Director Sandra K. Karsten presented certificates and challenge coins to each of them at a ceremony May 17, 2023.



Pictured (l to r) are Captain Gara Howard (Q/CJISD), DPS Director Sandra Karsten, CITS I Michelle Frey (Q/CJISD), CITS II Drew Wansing (Q/CJISD), CITS II Todd Schneider (Q/CJISD), Major Chris Jolly (Q/TSB), and Colonel Eric Olson.

"You work together as a great team," said Director Karsten, "and that is how you were able to accomplish this in the time frame given. I'm sure there was a lot of pressure. This is a great accomplishment."

Major Christopher S. Jolly (Q/TSB) served as emcee for the event and mentioned when he traveled to the FBI CJIS headquarters recently this topic came up. "There were people at the FBI that recognized Missouri as the first state to complete this implementation. It was interesting to listen to the other states talking about how they were going to accomplish this endeavor." Major Jolly also noted since

implementation, the team has been assisting both the FBI and other states to help make their NIEM transition easier and more efficient.

Colonel Eric T. Olson congratulated the team and presented a superintendent's challenge coin to each of them. "Thank you for what you do for criminal justice in Missouri," said Col. Olson. "To accomplish this and then, to lead the nation, this is important

to us. Our relationships with those agencies and the FBI are important to us. To you and your families, congratulations. On behalf of everyone here at the Patrol, thank you very much."

"The work ethic of this team is unlike any other," said Captain Gara N. Howard (Q/CJISD). "In addition to them being intelligent, one of the things that sets them apart is they

are not just committed and dedicated to the Patrol, they are looking out for all agencies. All of them were very humble and each deferred to another team member when I told them about this award. Congratulations."

Each of the team members expressed their appreciation for the award.

"I learned a lot during this project," said CITS I Frey. "There were a lot of moving pieces, and it took a team that wasn't only us three. It was a joy, and I love working for the Patrol and with these guys. It was exciting, but I do have nightmares about IP addresses."

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The new troopers repeat the Oath of Office.